

A Special Town Board Meeting was held on Monday October 01,2012 at the Mooers Office Complex for the purpose of discussing Library issue (if, when and where a new Library will be built)and to hold a work session for the Town Board to go over a tentative budget for 2013. This Meeting was open to the public.

Present: Present for the Meeting were Supervisor Cory Ross, Councilman Earl Robinson, Councilman Steve Barcomb, Councilman Eugene Bushey, Councilman Gerald LaValley and Town Clerk/Tax Collector Shirley A Gadway. Absent was Highway Superintendent Eugene (Dick) Boulterice.

In Attendance: Attending the Meeting were Secretary Carol Payne, Sue Miller, ex-Librarian Edith Morelock, Marvin & Lynn Decoste, Sharon Duchaine, Fire Department President Jeff Menard, Carol & Leon Menard, ex-Supervisor Jack Dragoon, Fire Chief Raymond Phair, CEO Jess Dixon, Art & Norma Menard, Chris Bulriss, Steve Bulriss, Ken & Myrtle Hawksby, Gerald & Marilyn Gadway, DCO Kaleigh LaBombard, Court Clerk Crystal Bulriss, Marie Trombley, Laurie Pratt, Phil Poulin, Library Board Members Katie & Susan Evans, Librarian Jackie Madison, Tony Roberts, Norma Begor, Norman Jr. & Janette Stetson, Roger Favreau, Steve Drown, Brad Vassar, Scarlet Sample, Larry Begor, Harry Gonyo, Joyce Roberts, and many more residents.

Meeting: Supervisor called the Meeting to order at 7:00, then he asked Town Clerk/Tax Collector Shirley A Gadway to lead them in the Pledge of Allegiance which she did.

Minutes: Supervisor Ross asked if everyone had reviewed the minutes of September 11,2012 and they all had. He asked if there were any omissions or corrections of which there were two. First correction was delete Highway Superintendent as being present as he was absent and secondly regarding the \$6,600 from the sale of the railroad bed Councilman Robinson amended the motion to include that the money received from this sale should be given to the Firemen. Councilman Robinson made a motion that the Minutes be accepted as written with the corrections made and Councilman Bushey seconded the motion. The result of a Roll Call taken was 5 AYES and 0 NOES, therefore Supervisor Ross declared the motion carried.

Library: Supervisor Ross then announced that the Board would hear any discussion for and/or against the building of a new library and if a new Library is built, where it would be located. Cory told the people that he wanted the time a person spoke to be limited and he didn't want people trying to talk over one another. He said if this happens he will close the discussion immediately.

Katie Evans started the discussion by saying she doesn't know why people don't want a New Library. Katie said they formed a Committee and the Committee has been working on this since 2010. She asked the people what do you oppose and why?

Roger Favreau: Mr. Favreau said the future of a Library is limited. He said in time books will all be on computers, Ipods, and other electronic readers. Mr. Favreau said libraries are on a downhill trend and the people who want a new library want to spend many tax payer dollars on something that could be phased out in possible 5 years.

Librarian Jackie Madison: Ms. Madison said she doesn't know why people are so against a New Library. She said 85% of the people are without computers, or if they have them they are un-useable because all they have is dial-up. Jackie said people still have to think of books as books. She said a lot of people are not digital literacy. She also said we are not asking for tons of money.

Rev. Sally White: Rev. Sally Chase White, new UMC Minister since July 01,2012, said she is very excited about the proposed Library changes. She said the Library has to be made handicap accessible.

Philip Poulin: Mr. Poulin asked "Why do we need a New Library?. He said why not make the existing Library accessible (other buildings can be made handicap accessible why not the Library) and Supervisor Ross said he wants the new Library.

Royce Pombrio: Royce suggested before starting building wait until you sell the old building, so you'll know how much money you have to work with. Royce said should look at other buildings that are vacant such as Monette's , credit union building, etc.

Katie Evans: Katie said she looked at Monette's and it has asbestos in it. Also an addition was added to the original building and it would have to be removed. She said if they could connect the New Library to the Town Office Building they would save on electric, septic and heat. Katie also said she wants a Community Center.

Roger Favreau: Roger said you are going about it in the wrong way.

Supervisor Ross: Supervisor Ross said there will be enough money to build a New Library here.

Leon Menard: Leon told audience there won't be enough parking space when the Firemen hold their field days, when they have their training sessions and/or meetings with court nights and all other functions that take place here.

Councilman Earl Robinson: Mr. Robinson questioned if the septic system and the electric hookup was enough to support attaching another building to it.

Jannette Stetson: Jannette said she has an 8 year old daughter that likes going to the library. She likes not only to look at books, but also to mingle with other children who are there. She also said we can't always look back, rather we must look to the future.

Jess Dixon: Jess said he got a quote from Sample Lumber as to what it would cost to erect just the shell for the New Library. The amount quoted was \$ 31,777.92. He said there is \$53,500.00.

Marg. Prombrio: Marge told the Board_Town people didn't have a say because the Town Board decided without first finding out what taxpayers wanted.

Cory Ross: Cory remarked he's trying to save this looks like the best way to go. He said there wasn't time to let everybody know. He also said they hadn't definitely decided where to put the building yet.

Myrtle Hawksby : Myrtle said yet you have because in your September Minutes Board Member LaValley made motion to put Library on Office site and Town Board Member Bushey seconded it the Town Board member Robinson moved to delay decision for 1 month. Mr. LaValley said he didn't say that and Myrtle said yes you did and she asked for a read back of those minutes. Councilman Robinson said yes that is what was said by Councilman LaValley and Bushey.

Marge Pombrio: Marge said if I was going to have a party I'd announce it. When something comes up it should be advertised on the Fireman's sign at least. Marge said if you're going to spend my tax dollar money I want to know about it.

Supervisor Ross: Cory said he looked into what he'd have to do to build a New Library.

Marge Pombrio: Marge suggested first a_ committee should be formed. A plan should be made and everyone work together. She said you should wait on a final location (this would be best idea and it should be done before everyone says we're building a new Library. Marge told the Board People should be told what plans are before hearing about it on the street.

Jack Dragoon: Jack asked what was wrong with the ramp that Highway Superintendent did up. The reply was it would be too close to the road. Jack said there is plenty of room there and the cost would be a lot less than what they want to build. Katie asked Jack what it cost to build the office & fire Dept. building. Jack said \$250,000.00. He said Town workers helped, an architect/engineer was used, roof was put on, hired Paul LaValley part-time, Francis Menard did the brick work and the firewall, Samples helped, Green Thumb did the landscaping and the Firemen also worked to construct this building.

Jack Dragoon: Jack said there was a petition at L&M store for people who were against putting a new library where the firemen use the space for their doings and their training. Someone (whom we know who she is) wrote on the petition "Think about the children/ this is not about Jack Dragoon (who has spent 50 years with the fire department and 30 years with the Town).

Jack said he doesn't think much about this that they didn't even sign the paper and that's what the paper is for to collect signatures.

Frank Ashline: Mr. Ashline said he is not against having a Library in the Town of Mooers. He says he owes them a lot. His question was how many dollars per person that use the Library cost and Jackie said \$5.56 for every dollar spent.

Jack Dragoon: Jack asked Supervisor Ross about the Concession stand building they want to get rid of or move to make space for a New Library and he was told it will be in back of the Library.

Chazy: The Chazy Librarian (who just moved their Library into a house donated to be used for a Library from the Medical Doctor in Chazy) said that the Library equalizes the Town.

Joyce Roberts: Joyce said she wants her Grand children to have a library. She thanked the Town Board for all they do.

Steve Bulriss: Steve said a Library draws kids and if a New Library is put on the same land as the Fire Department and the Office Building it could open the door for an accident to happen on Town Property. He said there are times when Mutual Aid is needed from other Fire Departments and when they pull in they can't spend their time looking to see where children are playing. The Fire Departments come to help save someone's house, etc. Again he said this would be an accident waiting to happen.

Marge Pombrio: Marge told the Board to be realistic. The Residents of Mooers can't afford to pay more taxes.

Jess Dixon: Jess said this is where we are at right now and when asked about architect/engineer plans for building Jess said we can just take the plans for the Office Complex and down scale them, then get an architect to put their seal on the prints.

Royce Pombrio: Royce asked if anyone knew what the cost for architect would be. He told the audience as per the Insurance the cost is \$100.00 per square foot.

Sue Miller: Sue said if they intend to build a new library they should look for another location. She said the Methodist Church in Mooers Forks was offered to them and they turned it down. She said you have to be realistic and think of the true cost of building new. She said how much more do you think the Tax payers can pay. Sue also said referendum vote needs to take place, as all the people in Mooers should have a voice as it is their money you want to spend.

Jeff Menard: Jeff said why were they not told anything about a new library until after the fact. He said think hard before you make any final decision on building a New Library rather than making the existing Library handicap accessible. Jeff asked how can you vote on a New Library when you haven't contacted an architect or an engineer, you don't know where the building will be going and you don't even have a true figure as to what the exact cost will be. Jeff said he is aware that Jackie is against a ramp and complains about the parking space. Jeff said that the Fire Department put out petition papers at L&M Store and collected 200 signatures of people who oppose the New Library.

Crystal Bulriss: Crystal said on the paper handed out by Katie Evans of the Library Board, it states (the building would contain a kitchen area for various cooking activities). Are you talking an area like the Village Offices have with a small frig., 1 bowl sink and a small microwave, and Katie said no a little bigger. If you start cooking food on the premises then you will have the Health Department involved.

Town Clerk Shirley A Gadway: Shirley said she wanted to verify what was in the September Minutes and she told how the subject started. "The big question is will a new library be built and where.

Leon Menard: Leon told the people that there could be a problem with the library hooking into our septic system. Councilman Robinson said you told me there would be no problem with them the library hooking into the existing electrical, septic and heating system. Leon said I told you I'd ask my man, but he is on vacation now. He'll be back next week.

Cory Ross: Cory said someone has checked to see who this land belongs to, the Town or the Fire Department. He said the Fire Department's name is not recorded on any Deed etc.

Jack Dragoon: Jack said you won't find their name anywhere because they are a non-profit organization so they can't have land in the name of the Fire Department even though they paid for this land.

Royce Pombrio: Royce said yes it was paid for with tax payers dollars, so tax payers should have a say as to what gets built here (build a new library, someplace, to be determined, or make the existing library handicap accessible). Especially if the taxpayers taxes will go up they should be able to voice their opinion.

Jeff Menard: Jeff thanked everyone who showed up and said taxpayers should take a part in how things get done in their Town especially when it involves their tax dollars.

At this time, 7:55PM, Supervisor Ross told the Audience he was closing the discussion on the Library as they still had a workshop meeting to get a Budget for 2013 done. He thanked all who attended the Meeting and said if they wished to they could stay for the Budget Workshop.

Respectfully Submitted:

SHIRLEY A GADWAY, TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR